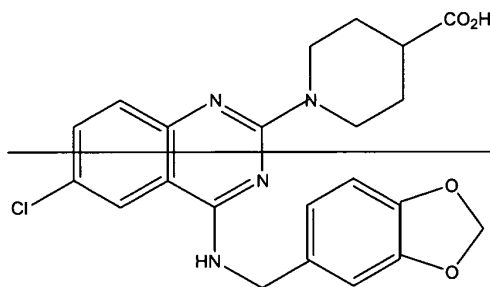


IN THE CLAIMS

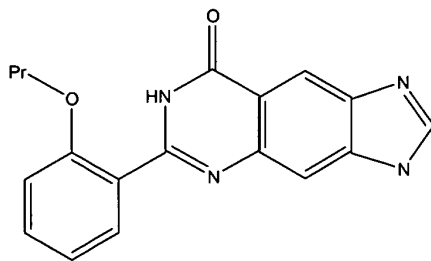
1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~or preventing~~ pulmonary hypertension in a patient which comprises treating the patient with an effective amount of a PDE5 inhibitor selected from the group consisting of:

- a) sildenafil
- b) (6R, 12aR)-2,3,6,7,12,12a-hexahydro-2-methyl-6-(3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl)-pyrazino[2'1':6,1]pyrido[3,4-b]indole-1,4-dione;
- c) 2-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-ethyl-piperazin-1-yl-1-sulphonyl)-phenyl]-5-methyl-7-propyl-3H-imidazo[5,1-f][1,2,4]triazin-4-one;
- ~~d)~~



~~e)~~

d)



; and

f)

e)

2-6 (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the PDE5 inhibitor is sildenafil citrate.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the PDE5 inhibitor is inhaled.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the PDE5 inhibitor is sildenafil mesylate.

11-20 (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method of treating or preventing pulmonary hypertension in a patient consisting of treating the patient with an effective amount of sildenafil or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of sildenafil, or a pharmaceutical composition thereof.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the treatment is oral administration.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.
26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.
27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the patient is an adult.
28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the patient is an adult.
29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the patient is an adult.
30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the patient is an adult.
31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the patient is an adult.
32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the patient is an adult.
33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the treatment is parenteral administration.
34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the treatment is intravenous administration.
35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.
36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.
37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.
38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.
39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the patient is an adult.
40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the patient is an adult.
41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the patient is an adult.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the patient is an adult.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the patient is an adult.

44. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~or preventing~~ pulmonary hypertension in a patient comprising treating the patient with an effective amount of sildenafil or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of sildenafil, or a pharmaceutical composition thereof, and wherein the treatment is carried out without administration of prostacyclins, oxygen, calcium channel blockers, endothelin antagonists, iloprost, adenosine and/or nitric oxide.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the treatment is oral administration.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the patient is an adult.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the treatment is parenteral administration.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the treatment is intravenous administration.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the patient is an adult.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the patient is a child suffering from pulmonary hypertension post operatively or due to respiratory distress syndrome or neonatal hypoxia.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.

63. (Currently Amended) A method of treating or ~~preventing~~ pulmonary hypertension in a patient comprising treating the patient with an effective amount of orally-administered sildenafil or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of sildenafil, or a pharmaceutical composition thereof, to selectively reduce pulmonary vascular resistance to a greater extent than systemic vascular resistance in the patient.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63, wherein the patient is an adult.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the adult suffers from primary pulmonary hypertension.

66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 65, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.

67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 65, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.

68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 65, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 65, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the adult suffers from secondary pulmonary hypertension.

71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.

72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.

73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.

74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.

75. (Previously Presented) A method of treating pulmonary hypertension in a child afflicted with pulmonary hypertension post operatively, due to respiratory distress syndrome, or due to neonatal hypoxia, which comprises treating the child with an effective amount of sildenafil or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of sildenafil, or a pharmaceutical composition thereof.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 75, wherein the treatment is intravenous administration.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 75, wherein the treatment is carried out without administration of prostacyclins, oxygen, calcium channel blockers, endothelin antagonists, iloprost, adenosine and/or nitric oxide.

78. (Previously Presented) A method of treating pulmonary hypertension due to congenital heart disease in a patient, which comprises treating the patient with an effective amount of sildenafil or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of sildenafil, or a pharmaceutical composition thereof.

79. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 78, wherein the patient is an adult.

80. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 78, wherein the patient is a child.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 84, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.

86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 84, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.

87. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 84, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.

88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 84, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.

89. (Previously Presented) A method of treating pulmonary hypertension due to chronic hypoxic lung disorder in a patient, which comprises treating the patient with an effective amount of sildenafil or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of sildenafil, or a pharmaceutical composition thereof.

90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 89, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.

91. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 89, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.

92. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 89, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.

93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 89, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.

94. (Previously Presented) A method of treating pulmonary hypertension due to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in a patient, which comprises treating the patient with an effective amount of sildenafil or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of sildenafil, or a pharmaceutical composition thereof.

95. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 94, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.

96. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 94, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.

97. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 94, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.

98. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 94, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.

99. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~or preventing~~ pulmonary hypertension in a patient comprising treating the patient with an effective amount of sildenafil or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of sildenafil, or a pharmaceutical

composition thereof, and wherein the treatment is carried out without administration of nitric oxide.

100. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 99, wherein the patient is an adult.

101. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 100, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.

102. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 100, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.

103. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 100, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.

104. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 100, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.

105. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 100, wherein the patient is a child.

106. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 105, wherein the child is suffering from pulmonary hypertension due to congenital heart disease, post operative pulmonary hypertension, or due to respiratory distress syndrome or neonatal hypoxia.

107. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 106, wherein the effective amount is less than 50 mg per day.

108. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 106, wherein the effective amount is less than 20 mg per day.

109. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 106, wherein the effective amount is less than 10 mg per day.

110. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 106, wherein the effective amount is from 1-10 mg per day.

111. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the patient suffers from primary pulmonary hypertension.

112. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the patient suffers from secondary pulmonary hypertension.